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Public Works Department

Joint Mequon-Thiensville Bike and Pedestrian Way Commission

Thursday, February 1, 2018

8:00 AM

Administration Conference Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

Present:

Commissioner Ron Heinritz
Chair Carol Leonard
Commissioner John Liegeois
Commissioner Kristin Wade
Commissioner Maggie Sewart
Commissioner Janice Druetzler-Katz
Vice Chair T. Azinger

Absent:

Also present were Assistant City Engineer Bridget Henk and Administrative Secretary Barb Vento. Guest in audience Jennifer (Jeff) Rothstein, Ozaukee County Board for the 26th District.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Joint Mequon-Thiensville Bike and Pedestrian Way Commission - Regular Meeting - Jan 4, 2018 8:00 AM

RESULT: Accepted [Unanimous]

MOVED BY: Chairman Leonard

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Sewart

AYES: Heinritz, Leonard, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger

3. Resident Communications

Citizens wishing to address the Commission on any matter not on the agenda may do so at this time. If you desire to be heard on agenda items, you may be heard when that item is considered on the agenda. The time limitation is FIVE minutes. Please state your name and address.

Chair Leonard noted that an e-mail was received but not forwarded for the packet from Susan Gagainis via Ald. Wirth. Assistant City Engineer Henk stated that it would be addressed under Item 4 Donges Bay Road.

4. Discussion/Action Items

a. Ozaukee Interurban Trail Crossing at Donges Bay Rd

Assistant City Engineer Henk gave an update of the road program starting in 2016 with the potential construction of Donges Bay Road, as well as the potential for sewer construction on that portion of the road. At the time in 2016 when Donges Bay was evaluated, the Bikeway Commission had indicated that they wanted a separate bike trail along the whole length. However, there was not enough right-of-way nor enough funds, so the next best thing was to do lanes adjacent to the roadway and that is what was brought to Public Works and approved in 2016 as the final determination with the lane not extending into the intersection. At this time the Donges Bay Road project is moving forward and includes the adjacent bike lanes, however they won't be marked as bike lanes because they don't meet the standards for bike lanes. They will be more of an extended shoulder and that is what's being proposed at the February 13th Public Works Meeting. Commissioner Wade asked if this was part of our 2020 Plan. Chair Leonard said that the 5 foot bike lane is what's on our Project Priorities List. Commissioner Wade asked if what we suggested originally had the intersections. Assistant City Engineer Henk replied that it did, but that it was denied by the Public Works Committee at the intersections due to funding and land access. Public Works is the ultimate jurisdictional group to decide what moves forward.

Assistant City Engineer Henk said that the second part of Donges Bay is the crossing at the Interurban Trail. We had talked about temporary speed bumps, but with Donges Bay moving forward as part of the road program, there is an opportunity for a permanent solution. One of the opportunities for a permanent solution is to put in a 90 degree bend in the trail which will force people to slow down and by placing the signage for the trail purposely in the path. This would essentially slow the bikers down. The angle would be perpendicular to the roadway. Another option would be to make it parallel to the tracks. This part of the solution is something that we will continue to discuss as Donges Bay plans are developed. Assistant City Engineer Henk will bring a couple of options to the Commissioners to provide feed back on next month. Commissioner Wade asked if the tracks are being rebuilt at the same time. Assistant City Engineer Henk replied yes, we have been working with the railroad Commission to smooth out the crossing. There are three crossings in the City that all need to be redone.

The third item at this location was the e-mail that Chair Leonard had talked about in resident concerns. A Resident Inquiry was sent to Alderman Wirth from Susan Gagainis. She is looking for increased signage, increased improvements in this area to add visibility to this crossing. Initially she was asking for flashing lights and then she said she was looking more for flags. There are flags here already with an intense amount of signage and they don't really help. This is something the Commission will need to look into further and give direction. When it comes to flashing signs, if it should go that route, there would need to be a power source, a funding source and who maintain its. It would be looking at everything not just the intent of the sign.

1. R. Heintirz move to have at least one Bikeway Commissioner be present that the February 13th meeting to present our position on the development of Donges Bay Rd.

Chair Leonard volunteered along with Commissioner Wade to attend the meeting. Chair Leonard also stated as a reminder our official position is that it's a 5 foot bike lane not an off road path. Vice Chair Azinger agreed that was our official position then. Commissioner Heinritz said that its not our official position now. Commissioner Heinritz further suggested that we change our official position from a five foot bike extension to the road to have an off road pedestrian path and trail and eliminate the five foot extension of the road. Assistant City Engineer Henk stated that at the Public Works meeting on January 6th, 2017, Chair Leonard stated " that this is clearly not what the Committee wanted or recommended". Its already on record that the five foot bike lanes without flares at the intersections is not what was recommended by this committee.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Heinritz

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Azinger

AYES:	Heinritz, Leonard, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger
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2. Vice Chair Azinger made a motion that we prefer the off road path but in the event that that's not acceptable we will accept five foot adjacent paths on the side of the road.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Wade

AYES:	Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger
ABSENT:	Leonard

3. 010618-Susan Gagainis-Path Safety

b. Ozaukee Interurban Trail Crossing at County Line Rd

Assistant City Engineer Henk said that there had been similar inquiries as in Item A above.

1. Vice Chair Azinger made a motion to table.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Wade

AYES:	Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger
ABSENT:	Leonard

c. Safety Concerns-Thiensville-Elm St & Green Bay Rd crosswalk

Commission Heinritz said that no plans have been presented and at this point no plans had been let. Vice Chair Azinger said one of the Bikeway Commissioners from Thiensville will attend the next meeting in Thiensville to state our case. Vice Chair Azinger said he would go in person or in writing to make a recommendation to the Thiensville Village Board to extend the crosswalk into the road at Thiensville Park and add flashing signs similar to the crosswalks at main street.

1. Vice Chair Azinger made a motion to make a recommendation to the Village of Thiensville Planning Commission and to the Village Board to extend the crosswalk into the road at Thiensville Park and flashing signs similar to the the crosswalks at Main Street.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Heinritz

AYES: Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger

ABSENT: Leonard

d. Resident Survey

Vice Chair Azinger said he wasn't able to contact anyone at Concordia or if it would be allowed. Assistant City Engineer Henk said that she spoke with the City Attorney and that a survey would be allowed, but it would need to be reviewed by him first to make sure we weren't asking any personal information.

1. Vice Chair Azinger made a motion to table the Resident Survey until next month.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Sewart

AYES: Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger

ABSENT: Leonard

e. Bike Racks

Vice Chair Azinger stated that at our last meeting we were to develop a plan with three proposals based on cost effectiveness to provide to local businesses when they coming in to consider in addition to their own as opposed to being required bike rack plans. Chair Leonard drafted a plan passed out at the meeting.

1. Vice Chair Azinger made a motion to add the handout to the minutes to look over for next month and to table.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Heinritz

AYES: Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger

ABSENT: Leonard

2. Mequon-Thiensville Joint Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee Bicycle Rack Recommendations-Adopted MMDDYY

f. E-Bike Discussion

Commissioner Heinritz said that at this time he had nothing to bring back to the committee.

Guest Jennifer Rothstein provided a web site with information pertaining to Legislation being proposed regarding e-bikes.

www.bfw.org/for-your-community/share-be-aware/bicycle-laws/

<http://www.wisconsinbikefed.org/blog2018/01/31/electric-bike-bills-now-in-hopper/>

1. Commissioner Druetzler-Katz motioned to remove from the agenda.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Druetzler-Katz

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Wade

AYES: Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger

ABSENT: Leonard

g. Bike Federation's Maintaining Bike Information in the State

1. Commissioner Wade motioned to remove from Agenda being no further information.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Wade

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Sewart

AYES: Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger

ABSENT: Leonard

h. Bike Sharing

Commissioner Wade called Bubbler Bikes and took a look at where they are mapped. Commissioner Wade was not able to get a hold of a manager and will pursue further. The one thing that might be a challenge is the bikes are rented for a half hour and then you get penalized. If they were located in the Town Center and you went to Cedarburg, you would have to move right along. It would be great to have them, but the rental time is an issue. Vice Chair Azinger stated that this is probably best left to the private sector for the time being.

1. Vice Chair Azinger made a motion to remove from the agenda until the need arises for further discussion.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Sewart

AYES: Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger

ABSENT: Leonard

i. Annual Bike Bike

Vice Chair Azinger stated that no matter if we do a formal ride or informal ride, if something were to happen that we are liable as the organizers. Commissioner Wade said we organized bike rides in the past and everything was fine, as long as there was no fee and open to the public. Commissioner Azinger asked if we are really interested in organizing a bike ride for the summer and how we would go about doing it. Commissioner Wade said we did a side on a Sunday afternoon when there weren't any other rides or football games. We did the River Ride which is on our web site. We had about 20 people, with everyone on the Commission

helping. The public that attended really enjoyed it and commented about finding new paths to take without being on a busy roads. Commissioner Azinger asked if there was anyone interested in taking the lead to organize the event. Vice Chair Azinger asked for a proposed ride route and date for next month's meeting.

1. Vice Chair Azinger motioned to table until the March 1st meeting and getting an opinion from the City Attorney regarding the Liability.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Heinritz

AYES:	Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger
ABSENT:	Leonard

5. Other Business

Guest Jennifer Rothstein thanked everyone for letting her sit in on the meeting. She encouraged everyone to keep fighting to reach our goals and thanked everyone for all the good work that you do. She also passed on another web site that this committee might find interesting.

<http://activecommunities.org/>

Assistant City Engineer Henk reminded the group that when projects moved forward that this group has the ability to provide feed back on pedestrian and bike connections. There aren't any projects moving forward right now until we get to the Foxtown Project. Once the whole development comes forward for planning commission review, that would be the time to look at biking and pedestrian facilities. The brewery is adding interconnection activity to their site, so there is not much more that they could do. Spur 16 has brought in their construction plans and have a lot of interconnection activity, along with a rail connection. The thoughts of this committee are already incorporated into the Spur16 plans. Vice Chair Azinger said that once we have approved our Bike Rack Recommendations they could be provided to the two development.

Vice Chair Azinger noted the next meeting was Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 8:00 am.

6. Adjourn

- a. Vice Chair Azinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting

The meeting adjourned 9:18 am.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Azinger

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Druetzler-Katz

AYES:	Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade, Sewart, Druetzler-Katz, Azinger
ABSENT:	Leonard

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Vento